

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph appearing on 9, lines 9-17, as follows:

Referring again to **Figure 2**, the data packets are then sent through the network ~~230-200~~ and reach a receiving second gateway module 240, prior to being delivered to the second user 250. The receiving gateway module 240 also includes a line card 245 connected to the network 200. In one embodiment, line card ~~225-245~~ is a VISM card, available from Cisco Systems, Inc., of San Jose, California. Once received within line card 245 of gateway module 240, the packets are decoded and translated back into a sequence of bits representing voice, which are then transmitted to user 250 along link 255. The system for improving reliability of the network 200 will now be described in further detail.

Please amend the paragraph appearing on page 9, lines 18-20, as followings:

The same process of transmission, encoding, and decoding may also take place from end user 250 through gateway module 240, network ~~230~~200, and gateway module 220 to end user 210.